FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 047 *11 March 1981*

ARGENTINA

Government Authorizes Unions To Hold Elections B 1
Government Turns Away Libyan Envoys at Airport B 1
[LA NACION 3 Mar]
Presidency Spokesman Confirms Viola U.S. Visit B 1
Judge Orders Human Rights Activists Released B 1

BOLIVIA

Garcia Meza Confirms He Will Remain President C 1
Foreign Minister Announces 'State of Law' C 1
Interior Ministry Denies Armed Forces Rift C 1
Briefs: El Porvenir Oilfield Production C 1

BRAZIL

President Leaves For 3-Day Visit to Colombia D 1
Lula, Others Charged With Inciting Violence D 1

CHILE

Catholic Clergy Members Oppose Constitution E 1
Police Arrest Street Demonstrators in Santiago E 1
Briefs: Air Force Commander Returns E 1

COLOMBIA

Defense Minister Says Guerrillas Reorganizing F 1
About 100 Arrested For Links With Bitterman Murder F 1

PARAGUAY

Press Union Calls For Release of Members H 1
[ABC COLOR 4 Mar]

MEXICO

Pemex Director on Oil, Industrial Development M 1
CPM Congress Opens With Secretary General's Report M 1
Oil Workers Reiterate Allegiance to PRI, President M 2
'Biggest' Uranium Deposit in Country Found M 3

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Carazo Denies Proposing OAS Mediate in El Salvador P 1
Briefs: Nicaragua Border Quarantine; Banana Disease Alarm P 1

EL SALVADOR

Government Communique Rejects OAS Mediation P 1

Duarte Backs 'Dialogue,' But Will Not Give Up Power P 2
Garcia Wants 'Unconditional Surrender' of Rebels P 2
Duarte Praises Democratic Process in Spain P 4
Americans Said Billeted at San Salvador College P 4
[L'HUMANITE 2 Mar]
Combined Units Comb North-Central Region P 5
[LA PRENSA GRAFICA 10 Mar]
Radio Cites Importance of Meanguera 'Victory' P 5
[Radio Venceremos]
POP Manifesto on Election, Foreign Manipulation P 6
[LA PRENSA GRAFICA 10 Mar]

HONDURAS

Honduran-Salvadoran Action Against Camps Denounced P 7
Communist Infiltration of Peasant Groups Cited P 7
Guerrillas Defeated by People's Indifference P 8
Briefs: New Salvadoran Ambassador P 9

NICARAGUA

Ortega Leads Delegation on Visit to Vietnam P 9
[cross-reference]
Foreign Minister Gives Press Conference in Madrid P 9
[cross-reference]
Ortega, Others Respond to Public Questions P 9
Ramirez Comments on Coming Wheat Shortage P 11
Nunez, Ruiz Comment on Need for Professionals P 11
Government, CST Opposed on Lanica Conflict P 12
MDN Permitted To Hold Rally on 15 March P 13
Delegation to CPSU Congress Reports on Activities P 13
Debt With Spain Renegotiated With Favorable Terms P 15
[Havana]
Social Democratic Leader Criticizes Sandinists P 15
[ABC COLOR 8 Mar]
Communist Party Urges FSLN To Take Firm Stand P 18
[AVANCE 24 Feb]
AVANCE on 'Pressure' Over Standard Fruit P 19
[24 Feb]
LA PRENSA Ready To Print in Managua Again P 19
Finance Official Explains Foreign Debt Situation P 20
Small, Medium-Sized Producers Hold Meeting P 20

CARIBBEAN

DOMINICA

State of Emergency Extended Until 14 April S 1
[St. Georges]

JAMAICA

Jamaica To Get Financial Aid Loans From Japan S 1
[DAILY GLEANER 4 Mar]

GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZES UNIONS TO HOLD ELECTIONS

PY102007 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2230 GMT 6 Mar 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Mar (TELAM)--The Labor Ministry has authorized four unions to hold elections after approving their new statutes, which comply with the trade associations law. This is the first decision of this kind since the law was passed and after the fields of action of the various parties have been gradually approved.

The four unions whose statutes were granted legal authorization are: Projector Operators (union authorization No 11), the Union of Grain Handlers and Related Workers (union authorization No 39), the Electricians Union (union authorization No 310) and the Center of Ship Pursers (union authorization No 374).

GOVERNMENT TURNS AWAY LIBYAN ENVOYS AT AIRPORT

PY060244 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 3 Mar 81 p 10

[Text] The Argentine Government has refused to admit into the country five Libyan citizens who had to spend several hours in the Ezeiza International Airport and then board a plane to Madrid.

This event, which took place during the first days of February, has become known as a result of the Libyan Government's delay in granting approval of the Argentine ambassador to that country.

According to Libyan authorities, the citizens who were turned away had been carrying the appropriate visas and had the instructions of Libyan regime leaders Al-Qadhdhafi to hold meetings supporting the latter's policy at the embassy in Buenos Aires as they had done in other capitals, according to information supplied by foreign news agencies.

The Argentine Government seems to have apparently wanted to eliminate a possible source of social disorder by means of the above-mentioned measure, thus unleashing the protest of the Libyan Government. Furthermore, a hasty interpretation of the Foreign Ministry's instructions by the Argentine charge d'affaires in Libya nearly gave rise to a difficult situation in the relations between the two governments. Happily this has been overcome by summoning the official to Buenos Aires.

PRESIDENCY SPOKESMAN CONFIRMS VIOLA U.S. VISIT

PY102352 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2206 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Mar (NA)--Lt Col Felix Gonzalez, press director of the Presidency, this afternoon confirmed that president-designate Roberto Viola will go to the United States in the next few days.

In reply to newsmen he said that the trip will take place "in the next few days," but he did not specify the date.

JUDGE ORDERS HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS RELEASED

PY062206 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2133 GMT 6 Mar 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Mar (TELAM)--It was disclosed at the judicial court that Federal Judge Martin Anzoategui this afternoon ordered the release of the six persons involved with organizations for the defense of human rights, who were under arrest, and their release will take place at the main police headquarters.

It was pointed out that the judge ordered the release of the six arrested persons since he did not believe it just nor reasonable to extend their arrest for the time it took to evaluate their case.

GARCIA MEZA CONFIRMS HE WILL REMAIN PRESIDENT

PY110134 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 11 Mar 81

[Text of communique released by the Presidency of the republic]

[Text] In view of rumors spread by the same enemies as ever, the General Press and Information Secretariat of the Presidency announces to the Bolivian people--particularly to our brothers the peasants, mineworkers, factory workers, professionals and students--that his excellency the president, Gen Luis Garcia Meza Tejada, confirms his spirit of loyal and patriotic service to the nation as well as his firm determination to remain at the head of the reconstruction process until the goals are reached which are aimed at obtaining prosperity for the Bolivians and building up a just and participative society, guaranteeing the peace and political and social stability of the republic.

La Paz, 10 March 81

FOREIGN MINISTER ANNOUNCES 'STATE OF LAW'

PY060210 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 Mar 81

[Text] Bolivian Foreign Minister Mario Rolon Anaya has announced that the state of law has been reinstated in the country, which means that the nation's constitution and laws will be strictly complied with. He indicated that the reinstatement of the state of law means that human rights and the personal guarantees provided for in the constitution will be respected.

With regard to the powers of the judicial branch, the minister explained that it will continue carrying out its specific duties, including the handling of drug-related trials.

INTERIOR MINISTRY DENIES ARMED FORCES RIFT

PY110149 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 11 Mar 81

[Text of communique released by the Bolivian Interior Ministry]

[Text] In view of rumors constantly being spread by persons who have an interest in showing that there are allegedly disagreements among the three representatives of the armed forces who form the National Reconstruction Government, the Interior, Migrations and Justice Ministry makes it known to the public that those rumors are untrue and tendentious, because the unity among the commanders of the forces is indissoluble with regard to the national reconstruction process which the armed forces of the nation are and will be carrying forward.

The Interior, Migrations and Justice Ministry therefore warns those who spread this type of rumor that they will be punished for crimes against the stability of the state according to legal rules currently in force.

La Paz, 10 March 81

BRIEFS

EL PORVENIR OILFIELD PRODUCTION--According to Occidental Petroleum production manager (Carlos Salinas), this company has spent approximately $80 million on services, facilities and development for the El Porvenir oilfield, which should be producing approximately 8,000 barrels of condensed oil per day in August of this year. [La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 Mar 81 PY]

PRESIDENT LEAVES FOR 3-DAY VISIT TO COLOMBIA

PY101823 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1750 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Text] Brasilia, 10 Mar (LATIN)--Brazilian President Joao Baptista de Figueiredo left at 1645 GMT for Bogota, beginning an official 3-day visit to Colombia. The president and his delegation of 22 members boarded the presidential plane of the Brazilian Air Force (FAB) after a brief ceremony at which President Figueiredo transferred presidential powers to Vice President Aureliano Chaves.

The following officials are accompanying the president: Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, Aeronautics Minister Delio Jardim de Mattos, Industry and Commerce Minister Camilo Penna, Civil Household Chief Danilo Venturini, National Intelligence Service Chief Octavio Medeiros and Armed Forces Chief of Staff Jose Ferraz da Rocha.

The Brazilian delegation also includes more than 100 private businessmen who left today aboard a private company plane.

The presidential plane which is taking the Brazilian president to the Colombian capital will make a technical stop in Manaus, capital of the state of Amazonas, 1,700 km north of Brasilia.

On arriving at Bogota Airport, Figueiredo will be welcomed by Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala at approximately 2200 GMT.

The Brazilian president will return to this capital on Friday.

LULA, OTHERS CHARGED WITH INCITING VIOLENCE

PY101259 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Text] In response to a report by the Acre Superintendency of the Federal Police, the federal police of Amazonas have charged the president of the Workers Party with violating the National Security Law. Four other persons will be involved in the same investigation. Among them is the chairman of the Campinas Oilworkers Union, Jaco Bittar, and the regional Workers Party president, Councilman (Francisco Menem).

The investigation has been launched in response to the request of the Acre Agricultural Federation, which is holding the union leaders responsible for two deaths that took place after a meeting attended by Lula.

The incidents took place in Basilea, where Lula and other Workers Party leaders staged a demonstration to protest the murder of (Wilson de Souza). (Wilson) had been president of the local Rural Workers Union and appears to have been killed on orders from ranchowners in the area.

Two days after the prortest demonstration, 30 workers killed foreman (Nilo Sergio), who is believed to be one of (Wilson)'s murderers. In view of this, the Agricultural Federation, which includes the landowners, decided to request that Lula be charged with inciting class struggle and the ensuing violence. All those charged will have to testify in court on 9 April.

In the meantime, Idibal Piveta, one of the lawyers defending Lula and the other union leaders, has been summoned to the Second Military Court where he will be apprised of the sentence issued against the 11 defendants during a trial which they did not attend. This is what Piveta has to say:

[Begin Piveta recording] Well, all this summons means is that the lawyers now have 8 days of grace to submit their appeal of the sentence against Lula and the others. Lawyer Ibera Bandeira de Melo and I will present this appeal within this 8-day period--that is, next Monday. The appeal will include a request for anullment of the sentence because that is what the law requires. [end recording]

CATHOLIC CLERGY MEMBERS OPPOSE CONSTITUTION

PY101812 Paris AFP in Spanish 1325 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Text] Santiago, 10 Mar (AFP)--Some 200 priests, deacons and nuns of the Chilean Catholic Church here today opposed the political constitution which comes into force tomorrow and which extends President Augusto Pinochet's term in office for another 8 years.

According to their spokesmen, the opponents distributed a statement in a church in this capital where they met to pray for the people. They stated that this is a sad moment for the country. The spokesmen added that a signed copy of the statement would be delivered to the vicar general of the diocese of Santiago, but the list of those who signed it, more than 200 persons, will not be made public.

According to the group, the new constitution which was approved last September is the result of a plebiscite that did not fulfill the minimum requirements demanded by our bishops. The religious demonstrators added that the results of the referendum, in which two-thirds of the voters supported General Pinochet's anticommunist proposition, lack any moral values.

They added: "This is a sad moment for our country. There has been enough unjust repression, enough torture and authoritarian measures in the political, economic and social fields, which are good enough reasons to fear the measures that will be taken by the regime being installed officially. We pray that the Lord of the poor will help our people and we ask these persons of good faith who have some authority in the regime to act, beyond their fulfillment as individuals or groups, to see the fulfillment in Chile of those values repeatedly demanded by the church, such as freedom, solidarity, participation, justice and a really human life for the great mayority."

POLICE ARREST STREET DEMONSTRATORS IN SANTIAGO

PY091422 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 9 Mar 81

[Excerpt] The police have arrested 34 persons for creating disorder during an unauthorized street demonstration. According to the police, a group of demonstrators caused several incidents on Peralta and Portales Streets. The 34 demonstrators were arrested because the group transformed a union demonstration into a demonstration against the government. The arrested were taken to the First and Sixth Police Precincts. The group includes 20 men and 14 women, six of them foreigners, mostly Germans who have nothing to do with the union conflict of a Chilean company. The arrested also include high school and university students and other people who do not belong to the Panal Workers Union.

The latest police report lists the names of the arrested as Heinrich Radtee, economics student at Berlin University; Andreas Radtee, also German; Van Burgen Roelof, secretary from The Netherlands; Elizabeth Senff Rabtkel, German nurse; Esther Norland, Norwegian reporter; and Brigitt Fuchs Muntier, German teacher.

BRIEFS

AIR FORCE COMMANDER RETURNS--Gen Fernando Matthei Aubel, commander in chief of the air force and member of the military junta, has returned to the country after a private visit to the United States, Israel and other European countries. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 5 Mar 81 PY]

DEFENSE MINISTER SAYS GUERRILLAS REORGANIZING

PA102022 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Excerpt of press conference by Colombian Defense Minister Gen Luis Carlos Camacho on 10 Mar--recorded]

[Excerpt] [Camacho Leyva] The truth is that during the operations conducted in that sector [not further explained], the armed forces have killed six armed bandits.

[Question] Any arrests?

[Answer] We have not arrested anyone. Up to now, we only have the deaths I have just reported to you.

[Question] Mr Minister, what do you think of the coincidence between the murder of Bitterman and the capture of the 19 April Movement weapons in the face of the amnesty which has been approved?

[Answer] Well, we could say that there is a very suspicious coincidence between the sacrifice of Bitterman and the discovery of the weapons.

[Question] Mr Minister, you have said that the Colombian guerrillas are receiving support from abroad. Has this been proven?

[Answer] Well, as you can see, weapons and ammunition have just arrived from abroad.

[Question] Do you know from which country these weapons are coming from?

[Answer] I have just said we do not know from where they came and that we are investigating this.

[Question] Is there any indication that there is a resurgence in the Colombian guerrillas since the approval of the amnesty?

[Answer] Well, I would not say that there is a resurgence of the guerrillas, but that they are reorganizing themselves.

ABOUT 100 ARRESTED FOR LINKS WITH BITTERMAN MURDER

PA101453 Paris AFP in Spanish 1423 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Text] Bogota, 10 Mar (AFP)--It was learned today that some 100 people have been arrested by the army for possible links with those who on Saturday murdered U.S. linguist Chester Allen Bitterman.

The arrests occurred in Bogota where Bitterman was held for 47 days by a faction of the self-styled 19 April Movement (M-19) that shot him at dawn on Saturday.

All those arrested have been taken to the installations of the Military Institutes Brigade (BIM) where they have been submitted to extensive questioning by a military judge who has begun investigating the crime.

Those arrested include Alfredo Torres, an evangelical pastor, who served as an intermediary between the M-19 and the Summer Institute of Linguistics (ILV), the organization for which Bitterman worked as an economic adviser and a bible translator.

During the unsuccessful negotiations, the ILV did not give him authority to speak in its name with the M-19 and Torres said the ILV was negligent in trying to obtain Bitterman's release.

The arrests have been carried out during a number of raids on houses in various parts of Bogota. However, it has not been reported whether some of those of arrested are actually involved in the crime that has been condemned by the Colombian Government, church and society.

PRESS UNION CALLS FOR RELEASE OF MEMBERS

PY1101833 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 4 Mar 81 p 9

[Text of communique issued by the Journalists Union of Paraguay [SPP] in Asuncion; no date given]

[Text] The Journalists Union of Paraguay (SPP) has responded to the request made by its members who work for the newspaper HOY and is now addressing the fraternal unions grouped together with it under the umbrella of the Paraguayan Workers Confederation (CPT), the national government, foreign journalists unions, national and international organizations of good will, and the people in general to state the following:

1. Member Eduardo Rolon (newspaper LA TRIBUNA) and photographer Rolando Chamorro (newspaper HOY) have recovered their freedom after having been held incommunicado at the investigations department of the metropolitan police. The SPP wishes to express its satisfaction over the release of these colleagues.

2. Founding members of the SPP, Argentine citizen Hernando Sevilla (newspaper HOY) and Juan Andres Cardozo (newspaper LA TRIBUNA), are still being held incommunicado at the investigations department where they have been for 20 days, a situation which has led the members of the SPP to believe that they may not be in good physical and psychological condition.

3. The SPP refutes the terms "fugitive," "wanted" or "has managed to escape from police surveillance," which are being used to describe the situation of founding member Felix Ruiz Sanchez, former president of the SPP Board of Delegates, whose whereabouts are unknown. Moreover, the SPP calls upon the authorities to inform the people whether this journalist is under arrest or not.

4. The SPP supports the belief of its members who work at the newspaper HOY in that the Chilean citizen Mella Latorre, who is an international mercenary, has involved several professionals of long standing through his farcical statements, unleashing confusion inside our union and uneasiness among the people. Because of this unprincipled man, we journalists now have to endure the illegal arrests of colleagues like Sevilla, who as far as we know is not involved in any political activities, at least not in this country, and Cardozo, an intellectual of international standing because of his moral and professional standards; and we must remain totally ignorant of Ruiz Sanchez' true situation. This is not to mention the indignation, the moral damage and the anxiety this atmosphere of harassment entails for the journalists and their families.

5. The SPP also wishes to report that unidentified police agents have raided the house of Ruiz Sanchez, and have arrested a cousin of the latter called Eduarno Himbert, 36, a widower and professional mechanic, who was staying there on a temporary basis, and who is now being held incommunicado at the investigations department. This situation has elicited our concern for his physical safety and the possibility that he may be the target of reprisals because of his family connections.

6. The SPP urges all police authorities to put an end to this artificial atmosphere of harassment created by the Mella Latorre farce. The SPP feels that this state of affairs can in no way help attain the peaceful coexistence and tranquillity which must prevail among all Paraguayans, who--as was sufficiently proven in recent months--have nothing to do with the terrorist acts motivated by political vengeance for deeds perpetrated in other parts of the world.

PEMEX DIRECTOR ON OIL, INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

FL102143 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2114 GMT 10 Mar 81

[ASIN pool item, by Alejandra Ortiz]

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 10 Mar (NOTIMEX)--Of the 600 oil regions that currently exist in the world, few have been extensively explored. In Mexico, a privileged nation because of its oil wealth, only 10 percent of such regions have been explored and another 45 percent are classified as regions with great energy possibilities.

Mexican Petroleum (Pemex) Director General Jorge Diaz Serrano noted this today during his participation in the national meeting for the development of industry, commerce and distribution of other services convened by the Confederation of Mexican Workers (CTM).

The official made a presentation entitled "The Search For Oil and Gas in Mexico for the Industrial Development of the Country."

In this presentation, he emphasized that according to results of exploration work, many additional fields of considerable size still will be found.

Diaz Serrano emphasized that the quality of life and welfare of the Mexican people will find growing support in the national oil industry.

There is no doubt, he added, that technological development will not only help to find more oil but also to extract it from the already known fields at a rate faster than at the present.

Elsewhere in his presentation, he said that in the marine zone of the Gulf of Campeche, southwest of Mexico City, which is Mexico's most important, there are more than 5,000 workers currently employed in 40 gigantic fixed platforms and installations of other types directed by Mexicans who apply the advanced technology which in the past belonged exclusively to foreigners.

Diaz Serrano emphasized that the recent and important growth of Mexican oil reserves have no precedent in international oil development; beginning with an already important figure, it has grown 10 times in only 5 years.

The oil policy of Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo is in keeping with his nationalist view and with the commitment he acquired and maintains with the working class, (?he said).

The chief executive, Diaz Serrano said, aware of the needs of the people, gave the big push to Pemex that has resulted in economic growth based on accelerated industrial development which has generated more and better jobs for Mexicans.

CPM CONGRESS OPENS WITH SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT

FL102145 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0530 GMT 10 Mar 81

[By Ubaldo Diaz]

[Text] Mexico City, 9 Mar (NOTIMEX)--The Mexican Communist Party [PCM] today opened its National Congress at which the foundations will be laid to form a broad alliance with the whole democratic left and nominate a presidential candidate.

PCM Secretary General Arnoldo Martinez Verdugo so noted while addressing the opening session of the 19th congress attended by delegates of communist parties from 35 nations--notably El Salvador, Nicaragua, Cuba and the Soviet Union--as well as some 2,000 delegates from all over Mexico.

The communist leader read a wide-ranging report on the democratic struggle the party has waged in recent years, both prior to its legalization and afterwards, in the Chamber of Deputies.

He noted that this alliance will enable them to participate in the electoral fray and take second place as a political force over traditional parties such as the PAN [National Action Party], the PARM [Authentic Party of the Mexican Revolution] and others.

The program that they will propose to the alliance of the left will be structured in such a manner that any leftist candidate will support it and at the same time remain totally apart from the PRI's program.

Martinez Verdugo then said that in this way the left will be putting on its true face and demonstrating that the PRI cannot fulfill popular principles. He also remarked that the left intends to do more organized work in the countryside so that the communal landholder may achieve his revindication, that he may take his rightful place.

He also spoke of the PCM's oil program which is designed to generate a larger number of jobs, greater opportunities for education, better housing and improved health programs.

The program also states that oil money must be channeled toward creating a larger number of jobs and not only toward production sectors that do not give man the chance he deserves.

He denied that the presidential candidate will be Othon Salazar because the candidate will have to be a man who can unite the whole left, all democratic groups.

He acknowledged that the left is divided and that some political parties support the PRI when it comes to elections.

He reiterated that the left can become a pole in political development to attract the people and become the second electoral force in the country.

He also rejected the notion that U.S. President Ronald Reagan has provided an option in solving the problem of laborers, because the undocumented Mexicans in the United States are asking for an amnesty first to protect them from the arbitrariness of the authorities.

He also said that the struggle for a revolutionary government does not have to be an armed struggle because other means exist such as street demonstrations, pressure at work centers for better working conditions and many others to improve the situation of the worker.

OIL WORKERS REITERATE ALLEGIANCE TO PRI, PRESIDENT

FL101139 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2300 GMT 9 Mar 81

[Text] Mexico City, 9 Mar (NOTIMEX)--The country's oil workers have reiterated their acceptance of orders emanating from and loyalty to the Institutional Revolutionary Party [PRI] and asserted they will abide by all party guidelines and will not make presidential nominations.

The statements were made by Salvador Barragan Camacho, leader of the National Oil Workers Trade Union, at the conclusion of an audience with President Jose Lopez Portillo. He denied that the union is planning to nominate Jorge Diaz Serrano, director of Mexican Petroleum--Pemex.

The labor leader announced he had invited the nation's head of state to attend the ceremony commemorating the anniversary of the nationalization of the oil industry, which will be attended by 30,000 persons at Tamaulipas Stadium in the city of Madero, Tamaulipas.

Barragan Camacho stressed that the oil workers have not decided on a presidential candidate and reiterated that they will fulfill the promise of not betraying the principles of militancy and absolute loyalty to the PRI and of course to the president of the republic.

When asked about his opinion of the cabinet members mentioned as nominees, he said that the names he has heard are those of honest people, people who have been cooperating and working with the president because that is their duty and that they logically have a good chance.

On another subject, he announced that union work is moving forward, that in May he will begin talks with the enterprise on a collective work contract which will not only ask for wage increases but also for a strong economic input to the union to advance its program of support for the Mexican nourishment system.

'BIGGEST' URANIUM DEPOSIT IN COUNTRY FOUND

FL092250 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1940 GMT 9 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Oaxaca, Oaxaca, 9 Mar (NOTIMEX)--The government-controlled Mexican Uranium (URAMEX) enterprise has reported that it has found the biggest uranium depost in the country in Santa Catarina Tayata, Tlaxiaco region (500 km southeast of Mexico City), with an estimated reserve of 10,000 tons.

URAMEX Director Francisco Vizcaino Murray said that exploitation will begin in June with an investment of 650-million pesos ($28.2 million). Over $130 million is being invested at present in the exploration and exploitation of uranium in the states of Chihuahua, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas, Sonora (northern Mexico) and Oaxaca.

COSTA RICA

CARAZO DENIES PROPOSING OAS MEDIATE IN EL SALVADOR

PA110153 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Statement by Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo; date, place not given--recorded]

[Excerpt] Neither Costa Rica nor I have proposed an OAS mediation in El Salvador. Therefore, it is totally unfounded to say that El Salvador rejects what has never existed.

What we proposed was the possibility that, within the OAS, they air formulas which might be conducive to peace in El Salvador. Therefore, any action that might be initiated by the OAS would demand, as I have suggested, a great deal of parliamentary action among the ambassadors representing their countries and, at the same time, a great deal of diplomatic action to seek a formula which we have not wanted to refer to publicly. When I raised the subject of the OAS, I said that one cannot reach a formula that is so difficult, in a hasty way; rather, the matter should be studied carefully, analyzed carefully so as to not hurt Salvadoran sensitivities with regard to sovereignty. As is logical, all this would increase the possibility of finding a peaceful instrument through dialogue.

I would like to insist, now that Central America is facing serious difficulties as to its stability and political solutions, that we can in no way stoke the fire without running great risks. I will continue to insist in every possible way on a peaceful solution to the Salvadoran problem. I repeat here a phrase I said at the time I first made my proposal: with the greatest respect for the Salvadoran sovereignty and its governmental decisions. I also said at the time that Costa Rica did not submit specific solutions because Costa Rica has given its support to the governing junta; therefore, it could not act as mediator. Eventual mediation, should it be necessary, must come from another source.

BRIEFS

NICARACUA BORDER QUARANTINE--San Jose, 28 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Costa Rica today announced new quarantine measures on the border with Nicaragua and the airports after receiving reports on the outbreak of coffee rust in the Central American countries. Agricultural Ministry official Rodrigo Castro said the outbreak of coffee rust anywhere in the country would be very serious, since the government would have to spend huge amounts to halt the spread of the disease. Inspectors at the airports, ports and border are confiscating coffee and plants being brought in from other countries, since these might be infected with coffee rust. [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1709 GMT 28 Feb 81 PA]

BANANA DISEASE ALARM--There is widespread alarm among Costa Rican banana farmers that black sigatoka disease might ruin their crops. An outbreak of the disease has been reported in plantations in Panama near Costa Rica's border. [San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Mar 81 PA]

EL SALVADOR

GOVERNMENT COMMUNIQUE REJECTS OAS MEDIATION

PA110110 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0046 GMT 11 Mar 81

[Text] San Salvador, 10 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The Salvadoran Government, in spite of rejecting the OAS mediation proposed by Rodrigo Carazo Odio, recognizes "the good will" of the Costa Rican president.

A communique released today by the Salvadoran Foreign Affairs Ministry rejects the intervention of the OAS secretary general "as mediator in the Salvadoran conflict."

"The firm Salvadoran attitude," the communique notes, "does not signify a disregard of the good will shown by the initiative of President Carazo Odio, which the Salvadoran people and government appreciate."

Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo Odio officially proposed a few days ago the mediation of the OAS in the Salvadoran problem, which is represented by the differences between the junta of the government headed by Christian Democrat Jose Napoleon Duarte and the Revolutionary Democratic Front headed by Social Democrat Guillermo Manuel Ungo.

The Salvadoran Foreign Ministry has rejected the mediation of the OAS "because it cannot be considered a legally competent means for finding a peaceful solution" to the Salvadoran crisis.

DUARTE BACKS 'DIALOGUE,' BUT WILL NOT GIVE UP POWER

PA102215 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2105 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 10 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--While fighting continues in various parts of El Salvador, Jose Napoleon Duarte, president of the junta of the government, stated today that he is willing to engage in a dialogue, but that he will not relinquish power until after the 1982 elections.

Duarte has replied: "As president I cannot afford to give anything away. I am in the junta temporarily. The only one who has the right to relinquish power is the people and this must be by means of democratic and honest elections."

Although it appears that the race has begun for the constituent assembly elections in March of 1982 and general elections 2 years later, the armed struggle continues in El Salvador. In Chalatenango, a northern department where the guerrillas have regrouped, groups of rebels occupied the townships of Arcatao and Las Vueltas for 2 hours. When the army moved in to recover lost ground, two soldiers were wounded and the guerrillas fled toward the mountains.

In other ambushes in Santa Ana and San Miguel, two departmental capitals, three national guardsmen were killed in clashes with guerrillas.

In Guazapa Volcano, 30 km north of San Salvador, the army continued today its third operation in that area. Although no figures have been released as yet, some inhabitants in the vicinity of the volcano anticipated that more than 30 guerrillas have been killed in the army attacks.

Meanwhile, Salvadoran Defense Minister Jose Guillermo Garcia affirmed in a press conference that Col Adolfo Majano, former member of the governing junta, will not face the death penalty.

"There is no vengeance against him in the armed forces and we will continue to act in keeping with military laws," Garcia stated.

GARCIA WANTS 'UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER' OF REBELS

PA110257 Paris AFP in Spanish 0039 GMT 11 Mar 81

[Text] San Salvador, 10 Mar (AFP)--The splendid dialogue banquet is set, but up to now the diners have rejected all the snacks while waiting for the main dish: a slice of political power in El Salvador.

In this way, well-informed Latin American diplomatic sources have interpreted the present situation after various international attempts have failed so far to get the government and the armed opposition together at the negotiation table.

The unconditional surrender of guerrillas was requested today by Col Guillermo Garcia, Salvadoran minister of defense, when asked about conditions for the eventual participation of leftist organizations in the elections announced for next year.

Nobody can seriously believe the guerrilla organizations are thinking of surrendering to place their future in ballot boxes under conditions set by their current enemies, he pointed out.

The government does not want to negotiate a portion of the power and it wants the guerrillas to accept only the promise of future honest elections guaranteed by the armed forces, said the diplomatic official in a conversation with AFP while stressing what he believed to be unrealistic in this position.

Colonel Garcia met with the press today at the office of the army's General Staff, and after more than 1 hour of conversation he himself brought up the issue, without the question being raised, of the possibility of an electoral process proposed by the government junta of El Salvador.

Elections are not a plausible option for the nation at this juncture, and they will not be until the virtual state of war in El Salvador has been resolved, it was pointed out here.

The Salvadoran military, however, thinks that this war will be won in a relatively short period, thus permitting the organization of the elections.

One diplomat, who asked to remain unnamed, offered a different analysis:

"The guerrillas have some 12,000 men," he calculated, "and the military forces have another 17,000. If we estimate that in order to triumph over the guerrillas, a 10-to-1 government forces-guerrilla ratio is necessary, we must come to the conclusion that a military solution is impossible."

Therefore, the war will last at least until the guerrillas are choked by the lack of supplies.

Hence the pressure exerted by the U.S. Government to achieve this objective. The U.S. Government covers up this objective by talking about a Soviet and Cuban intervention in the conflict, as noted by the State Department, the diplomat said, adding that he doesn't believe the State Department assessment.

In addition, Garcia estimated that the supply of arms to the guerrillas continues, which also reveals the difficulties the army has encountered in this area.

The minister confirmed today the arrival of the new military advisers sent by U.S. administration to train Salvadoran militarymen, especially navy and helicopter pilots charged with intercepting possible arms shipment for the guerrillas.

According to his statements, there are 36 U.S. advisers already here.

The government continues betting on a military solution to the conflict and is therefore counting on the support of the U.S. administration, the diplomat noted, adding that in this case the war will be prolonged.

Meanwhile, the armed forces have increased their operations to counter the guerrilla pressure on small townships in the interior part of the country.

Garcia recognized today that the struggle has continued to the north of Chalatenango and Morazan Departments as well as in La Paz and San Vicente in the central region.

Townships such as San Lorenzo, some 70 km east of San Salvador, and San Antonio los Panchos, a similar distance away but to the north, have been evacuated of civilians and later bombed by the army, Garcia affirmed.

In view of these attacks, the guerrillas have fled to the countryside and later harass the townships after the army abandons them.

In this fighting, according to Garcia, 146 militarymen and 2,200 guerrillas have been killed since the 10 January offensive was launched.

The estimate of guerrilla casualties was estimated here to be too high by consulted sources which, although they did not dare make an estimate, noted that if one figures a minimum of 2 insurgents wounded for every slain one, the figure of guerrilla casualties would be at least 6,500.

At this rate, the guerrillas would not be able to hold out for long and to maintain control in some parts of the country, the diplomat indicated.

But while the parties involved in the conflict consider a military victory possible, he concluded, the prospects of negotiation are very slim and the snacks offered by the two parties will always be rejected while they wait for the main dish to be set on the table. And only when that happens will a possible negotiated solution begin to become attractive to them.

DUARTE PRAISES DEMOCRATIC PROCESS IN SPAIN

PA091224 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2207 GMT 8 Mar 81

[Text] San Salvador, 8 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Jose Napoleon Duarte, the Christian Democrat president of the revolutionary junta of the Government of El Salvador, speaking today at a news conference, praised the democratic process in Spain.

Duarte asked the European countries to understand that El Salvador is emerging from an authoritarian and unjust regime "just as some European countries emerged from dictatorships and today are highly undemocratic."

"There is the case of Spain," Duarte stated. "The people of Spain believed in King Juan Carlos when he was only a prince. We need an opportunity like that the Spanish people gave Prince Juan Carlos, through whom the Spaniards have attained democracy."

"The same has happened in many other European democracies. Let's hope that we will also have an opportunity so that this small country known as El Salvador may have what it wants--democracy and not totalitarianism, regardless of what side totalitarianism is on--Duarte stated.

"We have our own solutions: peace, democracy and elections." Duarte said. He added: "There is violence, but it is not us who want it, but the left."

Duarte made this statement following a ceremony to commemorate the first anniversary of agrarian reform. The ceremony took place on one of the country's largest farms. Located on the coast, it is now managed by 800 members who previously were tenants on that land.

AMERICANS SAID BILLETED AT SAN SALVADOR COLLEGE

LD091137 Paris L'HUMANITE in French 2 Mar 81 P 9

[Regis Huleux dispatch]

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 1 March--The experience in secrecy which the [Salvadoran] revolutionaries have acquired is impressive. I had a rendezvous with one of them. I was approached by the first militant at the corner of a street. We left in an automobile for an hour-long drive, during which he questioned me constantly and distrustfully. By noon confidence had been won.

We each took a different route to a house where a Farbundo Marti National Liberation Front official, who is a member of the Communist Party of El Salvador, awaited us. "The Americans are billeted in the Masfrer College of Education near the cavalry barracks on Santa Tecla road," he explained. "Several of them landed at the port of Acajutia near Sonsonate between 15 and 20 January. The people noticed them because one of the buses in which they were traveling broke down. One of its tires burst."

Questioned on the Americans' presence at that location, Colonel Cotto, who is in charge of foreign relations in the junta's General Staff, denied their presence. But he refused to allow journalists to visit the college of education.

COMBINED UNITS COMB NORTH-CENTRAL REGION

PA102259 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 10 Mar 81 pp 2, 15

[Excerpt] Combined units of security and military forces are combing the north-central part of the republic searching for the hideouts of the extremists who have been threatening the rural and urban inhabitants of the following areas: Cerrode Guazapa Suchitoto, Sensuntepeque, Tejutla, Chalatenango, Cerron Grande and Chorrera del Guayabo.

Combined military patrols have been operating since Saturday in the various cantons of Suchitoto, where serious attacks on the passengers of buses and trucks and pedestrians have been taking place in the last 2 months.

Military operations are most intensive in this area, in an effort to find the persons responsible for attacks on transport vehicles, on the facilities of the electric and water services, and so forth.

Combined operations are also being conducted in Conchagua, Zacatecoluca, Jiquilisco, Tecoluca, San Vicente, Usulutan, La Union and Morazan in eastern El Salvador.

Search operations are progressing in the rural sectors of Tecoluca, Sacatecoluca, San Esteban Catarina, Santo Domingo and San Lorenzo, in San Vicente department. According to military sources, it is expected that these areas, where extremist operations are hindering farmwork, will soon be totally cleaned out.

RADIO CITES IMPORTANCE OF MEANGUERA 'VICTORY'

PA071444 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 2300 GMT 6 Mar 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The military victory at Meanguera, Morazan Department, reaffirms the fighting spirit and capacity of the regular army of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front. Our forces, in a large-scale operation in which we used numerous squads, took and maintained positions in extensive areas of Morazan Department to contain an enemy advance with reinforcements toward our main objective, the town of Meanguera.

In this action, it was proved that there is demoralization in the dictatorship's armed forces. The panic and disorganization caused among the officers and troops that we attacked at Meanguera and at the roadblocks on the roads to Jocoaitique, Villa del Rosario, San Francisco Gotera and Osicala demonstrated the morale of those involved in a war in which they have nothing to defend and who are in an army with a criminal high command at the service of the oligarchy and foreign forces--the latter being of course the forces of imperialism.

The air force demonstrated and Perquin. Helicopters flew over our positions without attacking us for fear of antiaircraft fire from the armed people.

Our regular army is consolidating its strength as its ranks are being enlarged by (?workers), peasants, students, professionals and priests, all united in the advance against a hundred-year-old oppression.

In Chalatenango, Santa Ana, San Salvador, La Union, San Miguel, San Vicente, Usulutan, Cabana and all over the national territory a peoples army is striking, recovering weapons, consolidating its positions, growing and gaining experience and is also getting ready for the decisive battles against the tyrants, who are internationally isolated without any base of sustenance and now have deep internal conflicts.

Duarte, the military high command and imperialism on 11 May, one of the deadlines for the so-called amnesty, will see the dignity of a people, because here in El Salvador the only ones who set deadlines are the armed people, and the militarized Duartism can count its time in weeks.

POP MANIFESTO ON ELECTION, FOREIGN MANIPULATION

PA102319 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 10 Mar 81 p 19

[Paid advertisement: People's Orientation Party manifesto]

[Text] To the Salvadoran People

In light of the complex domestic political situation and the international state of affairs in which our country is involved, the People's Orientation Party [POP] states:

1. Its deep concern over the fact that foreign powers and international political forces, with the complicity of domestic groups, are manipulating or attemtping to manipulate the fate of El Salvador as never before in our history as an independent nation.

2. To aggravate this situation, two international political movements, the Christian Democracy World Union and the Socialist International, have bestowed upon themselves the power to propose and to implement solutions to this country's political problems--solutions for which nobody has asked. Furthermore, these international movements have very little or no representation among the Salvadoran citizens.

3. Consequently, our party considers the interference of these international movements an affront on our country's sovereignty and a negation of the Salvadoran people's ability to find their own solutions to the nation's problems.

4. The POP believes that the only political solution for the present crisis is that the Salvadoran people decide in completely free elections who should rule them and what the political, economic and social principles should be that regulate their institutional life as an independent nation.

5. In order for these elections to be held in peace and with the guarantee of impartiality, we believe that the structure of the present government should be broadened to include representatives of the democratic parties or groups as well as of the productive sectors, the middle class, professionals and labor.

We consider the reorganization of the government as outlined above to be of prime interst because, in order for there to be confidence in the electoral process, all the representative sectors of the citizenry must participate in overseeing this process, right from the start and at the highest level, collaborating in the drawing up of the norms that will regulate the elections and in the organization of the electoral mechanisms.

If this is done in any other way, it would not be possible to eliminate from the citizens' minds the idea that the only party now represented in the government is also the new official party. This would be contrary to the goal sought: that in the near future, the people may be able to determine their own path with confidence, security and liberty.

HONDURAS

HONDURAN-SALVADORAN ACTION AGAINST CAMPS DENOUNCED

PA102057 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Excerpt] The Honduran Coordinating Board of Solidarity with the Salvadoran People has charged in Tegucigalpa that the Honduran and Salvadoran Armies have coordinated plans to launch on 11 March a joint action against the refugee camps located on the border region between the two countries.

The Coordinating Board of Solidarity with the Salvadoran People includes the most important Honduran organizations that have expressed their solidarity with the Salvadoran liberation struggle. On various occasions the coordinating board has denounced coordinated actions between the Salvadoran and Honduran Armies against the Salvadoran guerrillas.

The coordinating board has charged that Lt Col (Marcial Enamorado) Perez of the G-5 will direct the operations. According to the charge, the Honduran Army's action seeks to pressure the thousands of Salvadoran refugees to cross the border and return to El Salvador where the Salvadoran Armed Forces will massacre them. The planned action would be similar to the action carried out on the banks of the Sumpul River on 14 May when the two armies coordinated actions and thousands of Salvadoran fleeing from the repressive forces of the Salvadoran military-Christian Democratic junta were blocked by the Honduran soldiers. Approximately 600 people were killed, most of them old people, women and children.

COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF PEASANT GROUPS CITED

PA101942 Tegucigalpa La Voz de Honduras in Spanish 1130 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Text] Yesterday, there were several land invasions: the land owned by Alvarado Puerto in Las Flores, the Natural Resources Experimental Center in (El Taladro), the land owned by the Suazo heirs in Ajuterique, the land owned by Pilar Suazo in (?Lejamani), La Paz, and the tomato plantations of Federico Dominguez and Ramon Padilla in Villa San Antonio. Today, we will interview the secretary of the National Federation of Farmers and Cattlemen of Honduras [FENACH], Joaquin (Luna) Mejia, on this issue. Let us listen to him:

[Begin recording] [Mejia] Well, we are definitely noticing that this is apparently a premeditated operation, because they have proceeded to invade lands which were being tilled, in full production, with tomatoes, tobacco, rice and so forth. This means that they are not asking for an agrarian reform, but that they wish to destabilize the [words indistinct]. It seems to be an act of sedition which is taking place. We hear this is going to spread throughout the country.

[Question] Are the farmers and cattlement worried about this, after they had issued a pronouncement (?offering support) to the government?

[Answer] Of course, because the government is going to be forced now to adopt drastic measures which would not be necessary if the leaders of the peasant organizations were to realize what is really going on. We think that this operation is political, rather than an agrarian reform.

[Question] Is it political, (?sectarian) style, or political, agrarian style?

[Answer] In a certain way, it is agrarian style, and in another way, it is political, purely ideological. Because the foreign forces here, the extreme leftists, are trying to (?agitate) the situation in our country.

[Question] Are you referring to imported ideologies?

[Answer] Definitely, yes, to be clear, communism is conducting full-scale action throughout Central America and the Caribbean and we could not be exempt from that plan of operations of the USSR and Cuba, to be more clear, as the State Department has publicly said this.

[Question] You mean to say that the peasant organizations are infiltrated?

[Answer] Definitely yes, they are infiltrated. Evidence of this is the Isletas case, where it is evident that the extreme leftists have taken action so that there will not be any stability in that peasant organization and this is also happening in Comayagua.

[Question] Do you see a need for land, land that has not been alotted and that the people need for cultivation?

[Answer] The statistics disclosed by the National Agrarian institute show that approximately 75 percent of the land which has been alotted has not been cultivated. Then, if they have all this land which has not been cultivated, why are they asking for more land when they do not even cultivate what they have?

[Question] What are the crops which have been affected recently in Comayagua?

[Answer] Well, in Compayagua we have learned that the production of tomatoes has been affected in several farms which were providing raw material to (?better foods processing plant); tobacco which was being supplied to the Honduran Tobacco Company, Inc.; and rice which was being grown by former Foreign Minister Andres Alvarado Puerto, and if this were not enough, the National Agrarian Experimental Center itself.

[Question] Would you like to add anything else?

[Answer] Yes, I think the government has to take drastic measures against the agitators, who are driving this country to chaos. [end recording]

GUERRILLAS DEFEATED BY PEOPLE'S INDIFFERENCE

PA101950 Tegucigalpa La Voz de Honduras in Spanish 1130 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Moises de Jesus Ulloa Duarte commentary]

[Excerpts] A special Bogota correspondent to El Salvador has written that the people's indifference has defeated the guerrillas in El Salvador. Javier Ayala has been sent by the Bogota press to cover the violence which is taking place everyday throughout that Central American nation.

Those few words cover the tremendous setback suffered by the Salvadoran extreme leftists and by those communist countries who, directed by Moscow, are accompanying the extremists in their adventure through Central America, where they seem to have failed. One said exception is Sandinist Nicaragua, where the revolution has betrayed the dearest national interests. Apparently this will be a short-lived, but sad stage in the turbulent history of that country.

The Colombian journalist says that rather than by the armed forces, the Salvadoran guerrillas have been defeated by the indifference of the people to their so-called final offensive launched a few weeks ago in a foiled attempt to seize power. The revolutionary left of El Salvador, with over 3,000 trained and well-armed guerrillas, launched a general offensive last 10 January. Its goal was to take over political power in that Central American nation prior to 20 January, which apparently was to coincide with the inauguration of the Republican administration of U.S. President Ronald Reagan, whose new policy radically replaces the socializing policy of his predecessor Jimmy Carter. Reagan has placed strong barriers to Soviet expansion not only in Central America and the Caribbean, but in other parts of the world.

Evidently, the communists will continue with their subversive actions as long as they continue to receive the weapons which are being sent from Cuba, Nicaragua and other communist countries, something which the United States has said it will control at the source itself. The Salvadoran Armed Forces know that the hostilities will continue, but they insist they have already won the military battle and they are willing to continue in the struggle, to the same extent which international communist subversives may continue with their actions.

BRIEFS

NEW SALVADORAN AMBASSADOR--Tegucigalpa, 5 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Sigfrido Munes, El Salvador's new ambassador to Honduras, today presented his credentials to President Policarpo Paz Garcia. Munes is the first ambassador El Salvador has had in Honduras for 11 years. [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2314 GMT 5 Mar 81 PA]

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA LEADS DELEGATION ON VISIT TO VIETNAM

For Vietnamese reportage on the visit to Vietnam by a Nicaraguan delegation led by Revolutionary Commander Humberto Ortega, see the Vietnam section of the 11 March Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

FOREIGN MINISTER GIVES PRESS CONFERENCE IN MADRID

For reportage on Foreign Minister d'Escoto's 6 March press conference in Madrid, see the Spain section of the 11 March Western Europe DAILY REPORT.

ORTEGA, OTHERS RESPOND TO PUBLIC QUESTIONS

PA110359 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 10 Mar 81

["Face the People" program with junta coordinator Daniel Ortega and other unidentified Sandinist government officials in Nandaime--live]

[Excerpts] [Question] My name is Guillermo Arnoldo Cerda Bastidas. I represent the two communities of Nandarola and (Los Castillos). Companeros, our communities want an explanation as to why Jose Esteban Gonzalez was allowed to go free since he did so much harm to our revolution out of the country.

[Answer] [unidentified speaker] A demonstration was staged at the Government House last night by representatives of the Sandinist defense committees. They asked us that same question, among others: Why did we release Jose Esteban Gonzalez? We told the companeros that we have scored a major victory, the Nicaraguan revolution has scored a major victory. Why? Because Mr Gonzalez, when he made his depositions in court, explained that he had not said what the international news dispatches claimed. He estimated that there might be about 4,000 Somozist prison inmates in Nicaragua. He said it isn't true the revolutionary government is promoting or constantly practicing torture, although some isolated cases had occurred and some people were reported missing, particularly in the first few months of the revolution, July and August. He said he is interested in helping to improve and to strengthen the Nicaraguan revolution. He concluded by saying that he realizes that the revolutionary government gave him the opportunity to have his day in court, to have a defense counsel, to have trial observers and that the trial had met all legal requirements set forth by the revolution and by a truly democratic system as our own.

Therefore, by saying that, Mr Gonzalez placed a powerful weapon in the hands of the revolution, because we immediately relayed that statement to all parts of the world, to all governments of the world, to all the friends of the Nicaraguan revolution so that, knowing Gonzalez' statement, they might use it to counter the international smear campaigns against our revolution. Thus, the revolution simply administered justice in Mr Gonzalez' case because, if on the other hand Mr Gonzalez had not told the truth as he did in court, he would now be in jail serving his sentence. [applause]

[Question] Good evening, my name is Maria Antonia Espinoza. I am a sophomore. If this is supposed to be a democratic country, why isn't Alfonso Robelo, leader of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement [MDN], allowed to stage his rally here in Nandaime? Is it... [interrupted by catcalls] First of all, I want to tell you that I presume I am in a democratic Nicaragua, and one can say what one feels. I respect your opinions. [more catcalls]

[Unidentified speaker] Companeros, please let the companera ask her question.

[Question] I am going to repeat the question. If we are supposed to be in a democratic country, why isn't MDN Leader Alfonso Robelo allowed to stage a rally here in Nandaime? [catcalls] I have another question. Why is the newspaper LA PRENSA accused of being counterrevolutionary, or reactionary as you usually refer to it, for merely committing the crime of saying what the people think of the revolution. Is that called democracy too? [catcalls and applause] You have the floor. Thank you.

[Answer] [unidentified speaker] Within the democratic process of our Sandinist peoples revolution in Nicaragua, just 4 or 5 years after a terrible and cruel war, we are going to enter into an electoral process in which rallies will be held and everyone--liberals, conservatives, Social Democrats, the MDN, those who worship the devil, whoever [laughter, applause]--is going to be free to stage public demonstrations. Then, now that we are involved in an electoral process, public demonstrations [words indistinct]. Thus, the Interior Ministry which is in charge of handling these things told Robelo or any party organization that we are not engaged in an electoral process and that public demonstrations are not allowed because we are involved in a reconstruction process.

I warn you that in other parts of the world, more specifically in Latin America, after a simple coup d'etat such as those that the traditional armed forces stage in Latin America, in Chile for instance, a coup d'etat is staged without a war such as ours and it takes 20 years to hold elections and there is still no election. A coup was staged in Honduras without warfare, casualties, destruction or bombing, and 10 years are prescribed to have an electoral process. Gen Omar Torrijos staged a coup and it took 10 years to held a normal election, and so on with Peru and Argentina. But after a terrible and cruel war, with 50,000 dead, with destroyed cities, with destroyed hospitals and schools, with an aching, poor, miserable, unschooled people that Somozism left here, we are just telling Robelo to wait 4 or 5 years to rebuild Nicaragua with national unity before an election. That is not long if you compare it to other governments which prescribe 10, 15 or 20 years without war. Then, the Interior Ministry told Robelo to forget about demonstrations for the moment, and LA PRENSA has every right to speak up, though sometimes it goes too far.

The IAPA has not dared to say there is no freedom of expression here yet. There is Mi Preferida radio which mocks us sometimes. It mocks a people who have just experienced a war. There are the independent news media which are not Sandinist and which say all they want. No one has been admonished, imprisoned or fined for what he said yet.

We have the purest and most beautiful democratic freedom here and that's not my saying or the saying of the Sandinists; it is said by UPI, the IAPA, international organizations. Then, when Jose Esteban Gonzalez went abroad, the international news agencies which manipulate the news said that we have 8,000 political prisoners here. They forget that we have just come out of a war and that those people are not political prisoners. There is not a single person imprisoned for saying he is a conservative or an MDN member or an independent liberal or not a communist or not a Sandinist. They are prisoners of war and they don't total 8,000 but 5,500 [corrects himself] 3,500, excuse me. Of course, to many they may not be prisoners of war because they didn't see a son or daughter get killed, or they were never tortured or imprisoned; the prisoners of war are simply honorable men in jail for committing common crimes. Then, let's wait 4 or 5 years, which is nothing after war, and we will begin an electoral process and stage street demonstrations. [applause]

RAMIREZ COMMENTS ON COMING WHEAT SHORTAGE

PA102010 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Excerpt from statement by Sergio Ramirez, member of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, to the people of (Diria) on 7 March 1981--recorded]

[Text] Speaking of the difficulties that we will have to face, we are announcing through the Domestic Trade Ministry that the problem we will face in the coming weeks to obtain flour and bread is a completely political phenomenon.

I wish to say that in the coming weeks there will be a shortage of flour in Nicaragua because there is a lack of wheat and, therefore, there will be a shortage of bread. This is something that we are not concealing from Nicaraguans, nor are we concealing the reasons for the shortage of what, flour and bread. The wheat supply, since this country does not produce wheat, has depended on loans granted by the U.S. Government. Those loans have now been suspended. Therefore, we will not have the dollars necessary to import wheat until July, when the Canadian Government will grant a loan to continue wheat purchases. Until then, we will not have wheat in Nicaragua.

NUNEZ, RUIZ COMMENT ON NEED FOR PROFESSIONALS

PA080414 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 7 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Several university-level professions which are not top priority for the nation's development are going to disappear, but many new ones will appear. One of the professions that will disappear is social work. This was made very clear last night when commander of the revolution Carlos Nunez replied to a question in this regard. We must establish priorities regarding our country's needs. We are going to need doctors, agricultural engineers, economic directors and specialties that are more scientific than humanistic. We must put less emphasis on what we do not need, in order to put more emphasis on what we do need, said Commander Nunez last night at the Confederation of Nicaraguan Professional Associations [Conapro] meeting.

Professionals are the qualified expression [as heard] that establishes the social division of labor. This was one of the concepts discussed yesterday by the minister of planning, Commander Henry Ruiz, referring to the role of professionals in the revolution.

Commander Ruiz discussed this topic at length. He also mentioned the brain drain. Efforts are being made to reach the hesitant, those who have had doubts about this revolution, those who have been unable to understand the role of professionals.

Commander Henry Ruiz discussed what he called the two main tasks of professionals in 1981: To teach, sharing knowledge with, and learning from our brother workers and to conscientiously face up to the economic difficulties that we inherited from the past.

GOVERNMENT, CST OPPOSED ON LANICA CONFLICT

PA101926 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Text] For the past several days, a labor conflict has been underway at the Nicaraguan airline company, Lanica, where all the workers are demanding the dismissal of two executives: administrator Winston Salinas and personnel chief Noe Silva.

This station will now present an overall view of the situation at Lanica, prepared after we talked with the transportation minister, the Lanica workers, Deputy Minister Rodrigo Cardenal, companero Denis Menendez of the Sandinist Workers Federation, CST, and Pablo Martinez, another CST member.

Ministry Paul Atha told this station on Saturday that his ministry firmly supports administrator Salinas and personnel chief Noe Silva. He said clearly that he had doubts regarding a CST committee that is supporting the workers' charges; that is, that he did not give much credence to this committee.

Minister Paul Atha was asked why he did not believe the CST statements. What we want is concrete proof of the mismanagement, the squandering of the peoples' money and so forth that the Lanica workers are alleging, as are the CST and its leaders, he said.

Minister Atha explained to one of our newsmen in detail that it had been possible to economize, under the austerity plan, on expenses for articles used by airline passengers. He said there had been a reduction of over 90 percent of the $3,000 that was spent monthly for peanuts, almonds and sweets. He said a similar savings had been made on drinks consumed on the planes.

In this manner, the minister reaffirmed his statement that Lanica is under good management. He said that order is being established in the airline, an order which had never existed before because, as everyone knows, that airline had been owned by Somozists and had served as a banquet for mercenaries.

Moises Hassan, present coordinator of the Council of Government, also wrote a letter to the newspaper BARRICADA on the subject, supporting the administration's position.

In brief, Minister Paul Atha supports the manager and the personnel chief and is disregarding the charges against Salinas and Silva because he claims that he wants proof.

Warning that the workers should not become involved in acts of provocation, a CST leader yesterday reiterated his support for the Lanica workers. Pablo Martinez is in charge of organization for the CST in the northern highway area. He told a CST assembly that companeros Paul Atha and Moises Hassan had probably had only a partial view of the problem. Here is an excerpt of his statements to this station this morning on the Lanica problem:

[Begin recording] Look, I told the assembly that the evidence was clear. For example, Noe Silva is charged with abuse of authority. This is charged by 245 workers. This is proof and there is a document signed by the workers. Therefore, the abuse of authority has been demonstrated.

There is the matter of the vehicles. There is a letter signed by the workers to the effect that Noe Silva arrived intoxicated at 2100 on 31 December. That vehicle is owned by the people.

There are other vehicles which have not been reassigned, despite the existence of a law requiring this.

There is the fact that, as I said, the workers do not want them as manager and personnel chief, because they do not pay attention to the workers' problems and because they look down on the workers and their organization. They have no contact with them and are unaware of their problems, their demands and their aspirations.

Therefore, it is not possible for an organization to progress if it is not in good condition, and this is not the workers' fault.

The workers are neither to blame because the firm owed everyone, nor were they responsible for all that was done on the planes. This was the fault of the past administrations.

Therefore, the workers have shown that they are right in asking for the dismissals and we, looking at the case, support the workers' demand that Noe Silva and Winston Salinas be dismissed. [end recording]

MDN PERMITTED TO HOLD RALLY ON 15 MARCH

PA110227 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 11 Mar 81

[Text] Officials of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement [MDN] announced that Alfonso Robelo will hold a political rally in Nandaime, a city 60 km southeast of Managua. They added that the Sandinist government had given the MDN permission to hold it and promised to protect the demonstrators.

The event will take place at 0900 on Sunday. The MDN is an opposition party headed by Alfonso Robelo.

DELEGATION TO CPSU CONGRESS REPORTS ON ACTIVITES

PA080215 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 2130 GMT 6 Mar 81

[Report to the Nicaraguan people by the Nicaraguan delegation to the 26th CPSU Congress in Moscow, followed by interview; in Managua--live]

[Excerpts] [Commander Carlos Nunez Tellez] We feel it is important to give our views and to make a brief report on the official visit we made [to Moscow] on behalf of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] on the occasion of the 26th CPSU Congress because, as we said there, this was the first time a FSLN delegation had attended such an important event and also because it is the policy of the FSLN to report to the people on events which it feels are momentous.

Our delegation, of which three members are present here and to which Commander Cristian Pichardo, Commander Elias Noguera and Ambassador Ricardo Wheelock were attached, was met in the Soviet Union by Comrade Talyzin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Comrade (?Zhukov), who is currently a member of the CPSU Central Committee.

Regarding our views of the congress, we wish to give our impressions above all because we feel that the resolutions that were adopted during it are of consequence for all mankind.

What impressed us the most was the report delivered by Comrade Brezhnev, the CPSU general secretary. We were impressed by its content, its maturity and sense of reality and, above all, because of the foreign policies that were announced at a time when the world is faced with great tensions and because many sectors expected a declaration of war, given the policies the United States has enunciated internationally.

We were surprised and impressed at the extraordinary economic and social advances and the benefits the Soviet people enjoy. We not only observed their achievements but were extremely impressed by the critical and self-critical capacity of the CPSU while evaluating the last 5 years and by its insistence on the tasks that must be pursued and the need to grant social incentives to certain sectors and to some of the Soviet republics, as well as by the permanent and constant appeal the CPSU made to the world through Comrade Brezhnev in a critical [as heard] manner.

As for the impressions we gathered at the congress, we are also very pleased and very happy because we were able to feel, to perceive, a great warmth and solidarity from the delegations at the congress and the Soviet people, with whom we had an opportunity to close ties and to talk. We also answered the questions they asked about the development and situation of the Sandinist people's revolution.

When we talked with the personalities present we also felt their warmth, their interest, and the attention they pay to the Nicaraguan revolution, their solidarity during hard times and, fundamentally, the confidence they have that the revolution will know how to face difficulties, forge ahead, preserve the guarantees and achieve our people's goals.

We had the opportunity to talk about this with the following personalities: Comrade Husak, top leader of Czechoslovakia, who was accompanied by Comrade Bilak; Comrade Honecker, top leader of the GDR; Comrade Kadar, top leader of Hungary--both of which delegations reported jointlu to the congress; Comrade Zhivkov, top leader of Bulgaria; the Romanian comrades; and Comrade Karmal, top leader of Afghanistan. Some members of the delegation were also able to strengthen relations and ties with Comrade Valentina Tereshkova, member of the CPSU Central Committee and former leader of the Committee of Soviet Women; with Comrade Frida Brown, WIDF president; with Romesh Chandra, member of the WPC; with the deputy foreign affairs minister and the delegate for the department of Latin American countries of the same Soviet Ministry; with Comrade Gus Hall and Comrade Winston of the U.S. Communist Party. We were also able to strengthen ties with the representatives of some Latin American parties attending the congress.

[Jacinto Suarez Espinoza] We were able to attend a meeting with one of the deputy foreign ministers of the USSR and Comrade Kazimirov, chief of the Latin American countries department. The meeting was specifically aimed at reviewing the level of relations with our government and our common interest in exchanging next year some delegations representing various sectors of national activities in order to get first hand knowledge on the areas of cooperation that may be opened up.

We firmed up an invitation from the Moscow mayor for the Managua Reconstruction Board and an invitation from the Soviet Radio and Television Institute for some Nicaraguan counterparts. In other words, we focused on the areas of cooperation both sides wish to maintain and expand. We reviewed existing agreements, that is, how they have been implemented. We explored ways to expand and strengthen them or, in other words, to expedite compliance with some of them .

We also had occasion to participate in a meeting with a number of delegations, mostly from Latin America, which expressed interest in our situation. Throughout, they showed us their solidarity and their interest in maintaining relations with the FSLN and our revolution as well as in joining efforts to defend it against foreign aggression.

As noted by Companero Nunez, we met with Comrades Gus Hall and Harold Winston. They are the secretary general and president of the U.S. Communist Party, respectively. This was the first time both of them had had an opportunity to contact the FSLN and they asked us for a great deal of information about the progress of our revolution. They also told us about some situations in the United States, giving us their views about them.

DEBT WITH SPAIN RENEGOTIATED WITH FAVORABLE TERMS

PA101955 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua, reported in Managua that his country had managed to renegotiate, on very favorable terms, a debt of $63 million contracted with Spain by the overthrown Somozist government.

Under the agreement to be signed in April in the Spanish capital, Nicaragua will pay the debt in 13 years, with a 6-year grace period, at an interest of 7.5 percent. This, Ortega said, demonstrates the prestige of the Sandinist revolution and helps to defeat the slanderous campaigns launched against the Nicaraguan process.

SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LEADER CRITICIZES SANDINISTS

PY102055 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 8 Mar 81 p 9

[Text of interview with Wilfredo Montalban, president of the Nicaraguan Social Democratic Party, by ABC COLOR reporter Francisco Talavera; given in Managua, Nicaragua; February 1981]

[Text] [Question] What is the position of the Social Democratic Party (PSD) regarding the Nicaraguan revolution?

[Answer] Since the foundation of our party in September 1979, we have let it be clearly known that we sould support the revolution, not only because we believed it to be necessary, but also because we contributed to it on the condition that it would be kept within the program which united all Nicaraguans around the overthrow of the Somoza dictatorship.

We have confirmed on several occasions that we would maintain that support, as long as that program was complied with and the country was conducted on a road of democracy and pluralism.

Unfortunately, the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] has repeatedly violated both the government program and the statute of rights and guarantees of the Nicaraguans during the 18 months it has now been in power.

In the political field we have had serious restrictions of the development of party activities. Regarding the freedom of expression, Decrees No 511 and No 512 have been issued, which definitely restrict the freedom of expression; and from time to time the FSLN National Board issues, through the government junta, regulations making it forbidden to talk about certain matters. That happened with bananas, when the standard Fruit Company was nationalized. Right now one cannot talk about cheese, a vitally important product for the food supply of our people. Whenever they want to restrict information to the public, they arbitrarily do so, flagrantly violating the laws.

The functioning of the Permanent Human Rights Commission [CPDH], of whose National Executive Council I have the honor of being a member, has just been prohibited, and the same decree also prohibits referring to the case. This means that the newsmen here cannot report on this new arbitrary measure taken by FSLN National Board against an orgnization such as the CPDH, which kept up a tenacious and truly herioc struggle at the most difficult and crucial time of the insurrection against the Somoza dictatorship by defending Nicaraguan prisoners, among whom were many high-ranking members of the FSLN National Board suffering torture and outrages at the hands of the Somoza dictatorship.

They were defended by the CPDH, as were thousands of prisoners who were at the mercy of the dictatorship. The CPDH is now continuing its defense of human rights, because we have positive proof that there have been a number of violations, which we have reported to international organizations. This seems to have annoyed the National Board which, as I said, ordered the closing of the CPDH and also prohibited any talking about this subject.

[Question] You are speaking of the FSLN National Board. Wasn't it the government that decreed the intervention?

[Answer] It is no secret to anyone here that the junta of the National Reconstruction Government is only an instrument at the unconditional service of the interests of the FSLN National Board. The real and effective power in Nicaragua is wielded by the National Board.

As I was explaining to you, there have been hard blows, not only against the freedom of expression, but also against the freedom of the labor unions. A number of charges have been made by the Central of Nicaraguan Workers [CTN] and the Confederation for Labor Union Dignity that serious abuses have been committed against the leaderships of these two organizations for the sole reason that the leaders of these labor centrals do not wish to join a single Central of Sandinist Workers, which is a project within the totalitarian plan the Sandinist Front is pursuing.

[Question] The CPDH was not closed even in Somoza's time, right?

[Answer] That's right, and this is a fact which is causing us still deeper concern, because the CPDH functioned even during the period of war and insurrection, and the Somoza dictatorship never dared to close it, despite the fact that we had no legal status, because the government never wanted to grant us that.

We have taken steps with the Sandinist government to obtain such a status, because we believed that we had earned the right of having a legal status. The Sandinist government, however, took a stance of constantly and systematically attacking the CPDH and its leaders, until it finally was closed, a totally arbitrary action.

We are now witnessing acts which certainly violate human rights which did not even take place during the Somoza dictatorship.

[Question] Do you still share the desire for change which drove a great number of Nicaraguan people to oppose Somoza's dictatorship?

[Answer] Definitely. We believe that the revolution, that a change in Nicaragua, was something which could not be postponed. We have great social problems, since there is very unfair wealth distribution in our country. Therefore, we believed that the time had come for a change. That is why we supported the revolution but unfortunately, as I explained at the beginning, there have been some serious deviations and as a result we have emerged from a corrupt dictatorship of the right and have been led gradually by the FSLN National Board to another totalitarian dictatorship of the left.

We maintain that we did not struggle against a rightist dictatorship to fall under the regime of a leftist dictatorship, that we did not struggle aginst U.S. imperialism--which has caused this country a great deal of damage--to fall under the regime of Soviet-Cuban imperialism. In this regard we have had serious disagreements with the Sandinist Front's policy and have maintained that we will continue to struggle, as long as it is necessary, to guide the country toward a true democracy with pluralism and fredom for all.

[Question] Considering the restrictions imposed on your party, what possibilities of exercising positive influence does it have?

[Answer] Undoubtedly, our party is faced with serious restrictions which prevent us from working in an atmosphere of pluralism. However, we have important popular support, and we are sure that if the Sandinist Front tries to implement a totalitarian system in our fatherland the entire Nicaraguan people will react with their traditional decisiveness, heroism and spirit of struggle to prevent that system being imposed on us.

[Question] I believe that in the beginning your party wanted to label itself "Sandinist." Do you consider yourselves to be Sandinists? Is there more than one kind of Sandinism?

[Answer] We have always had great admiration for the heroic deeds of Augusto Cesar Sandino, the general of free men, since he was a great nationalist, an authentic revolutionary who wanted the best for his country. But I want to say once again that, unfortunately, the Sandinist Front not only betrayed the government plan of the national reconstruction junta--to which it committed itself to comply before the Nicaraguan people and the world--but it betrayed Sandino's very ideals, because we are sure that General Sandino, in the same way he opposed U.S. intervention, would at this time oppose the increasing Soviet intervention through Cuba in our domestic affairs.

This betrayal is also shown by the position which the Sandinist government has taken in its foreign policy regarding the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan. There has been no condemnation so far on the part of the Sandinist government. We believe that Sandino would have been ready to struggle against the Soviet Union's intervention in Afghanistan or in any other country of the world, in the same way as he struggled against U.S. intervention in our domestic affairs.

[Question] Is the intention of the FSLN National Board to impose Marxism-Leninism on this country supported by intermediate levels of the Sandinist Front?

[Answer] We seriously doubt that most army men look upon this plan with sympathy, because most army men are Christians, that is, they are Catholics. They joined the insurrection to fight the Somoza dictatorship because they were against that regime, and we believe that most of them, the intermediate ranks and the rank and file, will not agree with that political project.

Thus we feel confident that in the army too there are democratic sectors which may play a very important role when this process is defined.

[Question] I have read a commentary by you in LA PRENSA from which it seems that you do not believe in a civic solution to the present situation.

[Answer] The PSD is a civic party which advocates peaceful solutions to the national problems. We are finding, however, that the doors of civic solutions to these problems are being closed to us day by day.

We are trying to make the Sandinist government aware of the danger which may arise from this, because we Nicaraguans have suffered too much. We have endured a war of liberation which cost us over 50,000 dead. There are many injured people who have become invalids because of the war. There has been much destruction which has caused serious problems to our economy and we believe it is now time for this country to be led toward true peace with justice and freedom for all.

We are warning the FSLN National Board that it is making the same mistakes as the past dictatorship, and that if it insists on following that road it is leading our people toward grief, tragedy and suffering which we do not ever again wish for Nicaragua.

COMMUNIST PARTY URGES FSLN TO TAKE FIRM STAND

PA110137 Managua AVANCE in Spanish 24 Feb 81 p 2

[Editorial: "The Revolution Must Take a Definite Stand"]

[Text] We recognize that the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) and the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction have put up a permanent resistance to the pressures of bourgeoisie and imperialism. However, this has not been as successful as it should be.

It is a very clear that after a period of conflict against imperialist pressures and local reaction, there has been some vacillation which has then led to the reversal of measures and important decisions previously taken. This has occurred often, for example: the law which guarantees the 1985 elections; the suspension of Managua's arbitration plan; returning capitalist properties and large landholdings to their former owners; the negotiations with the banana company and the current mine negotiations that have invalidated for the thousandth time the just decrees confiscating those properties which are legitimate national property.

The excuse that has been given to reverse decisions has to do with the country's serious economic situation, an excuse that has no foundation because the decisions were made by the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction for the national salvation and reconstruction plan.

The cause of these reversals is somewhere else. They are caused by the lack of a definite policy based on the principles of the anti-oligarchic and anti-imperialist transformation process; on the control that Social Democracy exercises in the government's high circles; on the fact that our country, despite the advances made, still has not liberated itself from the political influence and loan demands from the World Bank and the IDB, which are imperialist tentacles enveloping countries that have recently attained their national independence. These loans granted as financial aid are like claws which permit new ways and forms of neocolonialism imposed by international financing capital, whose objective is to asphyxiate the new liberated state and to make it fully dependent of U.S. imperialism.

The extend of imperialist pressures is alarming and the people are really worried that these pressures might succeed. Our party is a firm and loyal ally of the FSLN and it is prepared to face the consequences in defense of the process and the revolution, regardless of the cost. Our party continues to be hopeful that the FSLN will change its policy and seriously consider the difficulties it is creating for the Nicaraguan revolution and start facing the situation and adversaries from a different position.

We are sure that with the revolutionary unity of the FSLN and the Communist Party, supported by the workers and the majority of the population, the pressures and pretensions of imperialism can be defeated. Only in this manner can we have a broad national alliance which is truly democratic and anti-imperialist and lead the nation unhesitatingly along the path of profound development of political revolution and economic and social changes which will solve the problems of the proletariat, of the large masses of poor and hungry peasants and the majority of the population.

A definite path along the lines we have mentioned cannot be achieved unless the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction frees itself of the reformist and capitulationist influence of international Social Democratic sectors and shows an interest, free of all pressures, to form a revolutionary bloc, to forge the unity of the workers' movement, the revolutionary alliance of workers and poor peasants and the democratic and anti-imperialist unity of the people in order to implement a genuine national and social development program. The Communist Party of Nicaragua is ready and prepared to carry out these tasks and struggle, which so far, are the only ways to the salvation and progress of our process. Any delay in implementing this policy is a dangerous concession to the reactionary sectors and imperialism which we could regret tomorrow.

AVANCE ON 'PRESSURE' OVER STANDARD FRUIT

PA110016 Managua AVANCE in Spanish 24 Feb 81 p 7

[Unattributed article: "A Great Anti-imperialist Victory Has Vanished"]

[Text] The charge made months ago at the state council that the work relationships at the Standard Fruit banana monopoly are typical of neocolonialism led the National Reconstruction Government to nationalize our banana production. Our masses regarded this measure as just and patriotic because it was intended precisely to end the prevailing system of relations and, in this manner, would solve the workers' chaotic social and economic situation while recovering this portion of our social and natural wealth which is suffering under the oppressive and plunderous claws of imperialism.

But the corresponding decree, which represented a patriotic measure toward this neocolonial enclave in our country, immediately began to be diluted under the pressure of the U.S. Government and monopolies so that they could rescue the transnational Standard Fruit Company.

No sooner had imperialism learned about the Reconstruction Government's patriotic measure than it adopted its first provisions aimed at destroying it. Thus, from NATIONALIZATION, which included the confiscation of property from the transnational firm, the decree was diluted to "negotiations," finally becoming a purchase for $13 million payable in 5 years. In addition to this fabulous sum, this will provide the imperialist banana company with an additional 5-year period to make huge profits. It is also a serious matter that the National Reconstruction Government did not maintain its dignity as a sovereign nation when it permitted negotiations to be held in California, instead of demanding that the negotiations be held here in Nicaragua.

The form and results of the arrangement are cause for great concern. In this first place, we have gone from a confiscation which would be justified 1,000 times to paying a $13 million indemnity for something which our working hands created throughout tens of years of wearisome labor. Secondly, the 5-year deadline set to transfer the banana company's "property" to our country are more than imperialism needs to carry out its plans of destroying the Nicaraguan revolutionary process, overthrowing the National Reconstruction Government and establishing a reactionary government to dominate our fatherland once again. All this shows that the Standard Fruit Company has made no concession to the Nicaraguan Government.

The least we can do is express our concern over the already characteristic inconsistency of the National Reconstruction Government regarding many of its decisions which affect the interests of the bourgeoisie and imperialism.

LA PRENSA READY TO PRINT IN MANAGUA AGAIN

PA090128 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2124 GMT 8 Mar 81

[Text] Managua, 8 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The rotary press of the daily LA PRENSA in this capital has been repaired, it was announced today. The press was partially destroyed by Somozist air attacks on 11 June 1979. Although the LA PRENSA's press is running again, the newspaper is not being printed in its own shops yet. However, it looks like this goal will be reached next week. The daily is being printed in the city of Leon, 92 km west of here, at the daily EL CENTROAMERICANO, which ceased publications several months ago.

EL NUEVO DIARIO is also printed in the shops of EL CENTROAMERICANO. EL NUEVO DIARIO is another Managua newspaper that is close to acquiring its own press.

Saturday afternoon there was a ceremony in the shops of LA PRENSA in this capital to dedicate the repaired rotary press. Managua's archbishop, Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo, pressed the button and the machinery began moving again.

Inking rollers and pieces full of rust have been turned into a modern rotary press of great capacity. On 2 March, LA PRENSA commemorated the 55th anniversary of its founding.

FINANCE OFFICIAL EXPLAINS FOREIGN DEBT SITUATION

PA100511 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2347 GMT 9 Mar 81

[Text] Managua, 9 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Of a foreign debt estimated at $1.6 billion, Nicaragua has renegotiated $1.26 million as of this date. The renegotiation began in September 1979 with multinational organizations such as the Inter-American Development Bank, the World Bank, the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (BCIE) and others, and concluded in March 1980.

Alfredo Cesar, director of Nicaraguan Finance Corporation (CONFRIN), said at a news conference today that the first debts renegotiated amounted to $582 million.

Once the agreements were signed in December 1980, this facilitated new loans in substantial quantities, Cesar pointed out.

The renegotiations for the second group of foreign debts began 3 weeks ago and are well underway, Cesar indicated.

He recalled that in October 1980 the renegotiation of the foreign debt from government to government was carried out with Japan, Venezuela and Spain.

With the U.S. Government there is some $150 million to be renegotiated.

There is also pending for renegotiation $170 million owed by Nicaraguan nationalized banks to international private banks.

The CONFRIN director explained that with the FRG there is $25 million to be renegotiated, apart from other small sums from private lenders in different parts of the world.

SMALL, MEDIUM-SIZED PRODUCERS HOLD MEETING

PA101816 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Excerpt] The small and medium-sized producers held an important meeting at the [name indistinct] school yesterday. They decided that at the end of April this sector will hold its national constituent assembly. The meeting was attended by Commander of the Revolution Jaime Wheelock, agricultural development and agrarian reform minister, and Sergio Ramirez, member of the revolutionary government junta.

DOMINICA

STATE OF EMERGENCY EXTENDED UNTIL 14 APRIL

PA061504 St Georges Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 5 Mar 81

[Text] The Government of Dominica has extended the state of emergency proclaimed last 13 February, 24 hours after gunmen abducted a farmer in (Gawdell). The new date for the expiration of the emergency is 14 April. Prime Minister Mary Eugenia Charles, seeking in Parliament the approval for the extension, said that the emergency was necessary to bring the country back to normal.

The abduction of farmer Ted Hunnicutt came after 3 weeks of violent acts previously targeted against Dominica police. She said that the extension of the curfew would help the present situation. Mrs Charles said that she was optimistic the situation would be resolved before the expiration of the emergency on 14 April.

JAMAICA

JAMAICA TO GET FINANCIAL AID LOANS FROM JAPAN

FL091550 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 4 Mar 81 p 1

[Text] Tokyo, 3 March (CANA-REUTER)--Japan is prepared to extend fresh aid to Jamaica, Oman and Zimbabwe as a member of the Western bloc, the Foreign Ministry said today.

Concrete aid measures are now under study, the ministry said.

The Tokyo government will be represented at a World Bank-sponsored conference of aid donors to Jamaica to be held in Kingston on March 11 and an international conference on Zimbabwe's social and economic developments to be held at Salisbury March 23-27, the ministry said.

Informed sources said Japan would either contribute a share of a 20 to 30 million-dollar loan or extend a direct loan by the Japan Export-Import Bank to Jamaica.

In 1978, Japan shared with other industrial democracies and the World Bank for a 560-million dollar loan to Jamaica.

The Japan Export-Import Bank has already extended a direct loan of two billion yen (9.5 million dollars) to Jamaica.

The ministry statement came a day after Chief Cabinet Secretary Kiichi Miyazawa told the press that U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig in a meeting with Japanese Trade Representative Saburo Okita last week sought "Japan's interest in U.S. efforts to resolve disputes involving communist forces in El Salvador and other Caribbean states."

Mr. Miyazawa said Mr. Haig had not spelled out in what way Japan should co-operate. But he quickly added "I can think of some possibilities."

Foreign Ministry sources said Mr. Haig must have in mind Japan's increased aid to the pro-American Jamaican Government of Prime Minister Edward Seaga who took power from the pro-Cuban Government last October.

The former Japanese ambassador to Cuba, Takumi Hosaki, today reported to Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki that the Soviet Union sent a large military delegation to Havana rearly last month to boost Cuban military strength.

The ministry said the government was studying more technical aid to Oman in the Middle East from where Japan gets more than 70 per cent of its oil imports.